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Approved For Release 2005/05/20 : CIA-RDP78B04770A001600010012-2

NPIC/TSSG/DED-1194-68  
3 May 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Procurement Division, OL  
ATTENTION :   
THROUGH : Chief, Development & Engineering Division, TSSG  
SUBJECT : Contract  for a Contact  
Duplicating and Reseau Printer and a High Resolution  
Step and Repeat Contact Printer

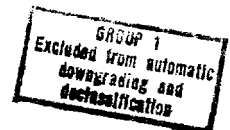
1. In 1964, NPIC drew up development objectives for a high resolution step and repeat contact printer capable of producing variable quantities of individual frames from roll film. By virtue of the "flat bed" design it was hoped to achieve a higher resolution than currently available with the Niagra Printers then in use at NPIC. Tests on the prototype breadboard high resolution printer have consistently given results inferior to those obtained with the Niagra Printers.

2. At the same time the Army (GIMRADA) had a requirement for a contact duplicating and Reseau printer. Initially, the design concepts for the two printers were very similar and it was logically anticipated that substantial savings would result from joint development; however, as the program progressed differences in development requirements quickly became apparent, resulting ultimately in what amounted to two very different printers.

3. On 29 June 1964, Contract  was signed with  Corporation for the development of both printers at a cost . NPIC assumed responsibility for contractual matters, with GIMRADA transferring its share of the funds  to CIA.

4. On 13 October 1965  announced that its funds under this contract were exhausted. A stop-work order for the NPIC printer was issued immediately with the intent of possibly cancelling the contract. This contract has been beset by numerous technical problems and associated delays. In most instances the contractor was unable to solve the problems in a reasonable time frame or in many cases not at all. GIMRADA, however, approved continuation of funding for their Reseau printer, thereby making cancellation of the contract impossible. After numerous delays and further funding increases, initial delivery of the GIMRADA

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25X1 SUBJECT: Contract [ ] for a Contact Duplicating and Reseau Printer and a High Resolution Step and Repeat Contact Printer

printer was made to the Army on 19 July 1967. Acceptance tests were then conducted by GIMRADA personnel at the Army Map Service. These tests were in turn continuously delayed by technical problems which were characteristic of the entire contract. On 28 March 1968 NPIC finally received a letter of acceptance for the Reseau printer from the Army.

5. A study has been made on the current status of the NPIC printer and it has been concluded that even if [ ] was capable of successfully completing this project, the resulting printer would not have resolution and design characteristics compatible with current and projected NPIC requirements. It is therefore requested that Contract [ ] be terminated and that appropriate disposition be made of any residual equipment.

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[ ]  
Chief, Technical Services & Support Group,  
NPIC

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